visit the Kashmir Valley for an assessment of the human rights situation there, keeping in view the Amnesty's disgraceful performance in releasing a heavily biased, indeed, downright dishonest, report on human rights in Jammu and Kashmir on the eve of the recent Geneva meet and its earlier publication of a doctored photograph in which a Muslim woman praying at the southernmost tip of India was depicted as a Kashmiri widow mourning her slain husband?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Government of India is aware of the news item captioned "NHRC plea on Amnesty irks Home Ministry" that appeared in the Sunday Times dated 19.2.95.

(b) No reference has been received from the National Human Rights Commission regarding allowing Amnesty International to visit Kashmir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

NRIs and multinationals for oil drilling in Western India

488. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NRIs and multinational companies who have applied for permission for oil drilling in western India;

(b) the number of applications received so far by Government from NRIs and multinationals during 1992-93, 1993-94 and as on date;

(c) the details of the companies who have been granted permission during the said period and the broad terms and conditions thereof;

(d) the numbers of countries which have been selected by the NRIs and multinationals in Western India for oil drilling; and

(e) the time by which these companies would start commercial production and the estimated production per annum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) A Statement showing the details of bids received from multinational companies and NRIs for exploration and development of oil and gas in Western India during 1992-93, 1993-94 and till date is annexed. (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The details of blocks in Western India and names of companies for which Government of India has approved award of contracts for oil exploration are given below:

Fourth Round

Name of Block	Company	Remarks
GK—ON—90/2 in Gujarat Kutch onshore basin	Consortium comprising of M/s Pan. Energy Resources of USA, Stirling Resources of Australia, Okland Oil Co. of USA, Pan Pacific Petroleum NL of Australia and Trans Asia Consultants of India	Contract yet to be signed
RJ—ON—90/1 in Rajasthan basin	Shell International, Netherlands	Contract yet to be signed

Fifth Round :

Name of the company/consortium	Block
Essar Oil Ltd, India	RJ—ON—90/4 RJ—ON—90/5 BB—ON/5
Rexwood Okland Corporation, USA	GK—OS/5

The broad terms and conditions are as follows:

The contracts would be production-sharing contracts with a contract period in case of crude oil and associated gas, of upto 25 years, Companies are exempted from payment of bonuses and statutory levies. The Government of India would have the first right of refusal in respect of the oil produced under these contracts, with companies being paid for their share of oil at international price. Provision for participation by ONGC/OIL in the venture at the exploration and or the development stage has been made and ONGC/OIL could have a participating interest of 30% to 40 per cent in the venture. Provisions have also been made for the development for commercially exploitable naetural gas resources.

Contracts have also been signed between Government of India, ONGC, Reliance Industries Ltd. India and Enron Exploration Company, USA for development of the Mid and South Tapti and Panna-Mukta fields. The broad terms and conditions are as under:—

These fields will be developed under production sharing agreements between the Government of India, companies and ONGC. ONGC has participating interest of 40% in these ventures and Enron is the operator for these fields. The joint venture will develop the field under production sharing arrangements, with royalty, cess and income tax payable to Government apart from a share of the profit petroleum from the project coming to Government. The pricing of gas has been based on internationally accepted principles. The gas would be delivered to Gas Authority of India Ltd. at Hazira. Government has the first right of refusal in respect of the contractor's share of oil from the project. International price for oil would be paid to the constituents of the contractor, which includes ONGC, for their share of oil sold to the Government.

In addition to above, contracts for 12 small-sized fields in Gujarat have been awarded to six groups of companies as per the following details:—

Name of the company/consortium	Field
Gujarat State Petrochemicals Corportion Ltd (GSPCL), Ahmedabad, Niko Resources Canada	Hazira, Cambay Bhandut, Matar and Sabarmati
Selan Exploration Technology Ltd, New Delhi	Indrora, Bakrol and Lohar
Larsen & Toubro, Bombay—Joshi Technologies, USA Interlink Geofizika, Baroda	Dholka, Wavel Baola
HOEC, Baroda—GSPCL, Ahmedabad, Petro dyne, USA	Asjol

These fields would be developed by the companies on their own with no participation by ONGC/OIL, under production sharing contracts with the Government of India. The companies would have to pay statutory levies like royalty and cess. Payment for the companies share of oil would be at international market price.

Sixth Round:

Bids are under finalisation for award of contract.

Seventh Round:

Bids are under evaluation.

Eighth Round:

Bids are under evaluation.

(e) The question of commercial production in the exploration blocks would arise only in the event of a commercial discovery. Production is already going on in the Panna field in Western offshore and in the Bhandut and Dholka fields in Gujarat. In the other discovered fields, commercial production would commence after implementation of the development plans for these fields. Production per annum is estimated at about 2 million tonnes of oil and about 2 billion cubic metres of gas at peak production rates.

Statement

No of offers received from NRI and multinational oil companies for oil drilling in Western India

Exploration Rounds	No. of companies
1992-93 :	
IV Round	12
1993-94 :	
V Round	2
VI Round	7
1-4-1994—till date. :	
VII Round	4
VIII Round	1
Development of fields 1st offer	
1992-93 :	
Small sized fields	4
Medium sized fields	12
Development of fields IInd offer	
1993-94 :	
Small sized fields	nil
Medium sized fields	12